THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) If and when the Bill becomes a Law, the Government will explore all possible avenues to protect its interests.

Bar on lawyers from appearing in family courts

442. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lawyers are prohibited from appearing in family courts which is causing hardship to the women; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to redress their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) As per the provisions of Section 13 of the Family Courts Act, 1984, no party can as of right claim to be represented by a legal practitioner. But if the Family Court considers it necessary in the interest of justice, it may seek the assistance of a legal expert as amicus curiae.

Corruption in Judiciary

443. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the growing public feeling against corruption in judiciary; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to improve the image of judiciary?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) The reference is apparently to reports of alleged corruption involving Judges. The Government are of the view that such reports should be looked into by the Judiciary itself, rather than by the Executive. Certain internal measures for checking up allegations of mis-conduct against judges are to be discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices of High Courts Scheduled to be held in August-September, 1990.

Shortfall in the Production of Steel by SAIL

444. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that SAIL production in the year 1989-90 was 10 per cent less than the target; and

(b) if so, what are the main reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir, Production of saleable steel in the plants of the Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) during the year 1989-90 was 9.6% less than the target.

(b) The main reasons for shortfall in production were:—

(i) Inadequate and irregular supplies of metallurgical coal to the steel plants, particularly to Bokaro Steel Plant;

(ii) Constraints of power supplies both qualitative and quantitative, especially in regard to supply from the DVC grid to the Bokaro Steel Plant;

(iii) Shortage of raw materials at Bhilai Steel Plant due to industrial relations problems;